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pages, he gives us a fairly intelligible and useful impression of both the mechanics and the spirit of each government. His tone is impartial, his judgment fair and his style interesting. The booklet is by far the best and most useful survey of the subject thus far offered in such brief compass.

HASKINS AND LORD. *Some Problems of the Peace Conference*. Pp. 307. Price, \$3.00. Harvard University Press, 1920.

Of all the books relating to the Paris Conference, the volume published by Professors Haskins and Lord gives the clearest insight into the problems confronting the Conference and the difficulties encountered in their solution. Whether dealing with Alsace-Lorraine, the Rhine and the Saar, Poland, Austria, or Hungary, there is evident in every chapter the broad grasp of the thorough historical student, as well as a keen insight into the larger political elements of the situation. No other book gives so clear a view of the difficulties confronting the American Delegation to the Peace Conference in endeavoring to secure an equitable settlement.

JONES, CHESTER LLOYD. *Mexico and Its Reconstruction*. Pp. x, 319. Price, \$3.50. New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1921.

The past few years have witnessed a flood of books on Mexico. Of those in English, the discerning reader might count upon the fingers of one hand all that he thought worth while. If he did so, he could hardly omit the present volume. Yet it owes its inception and its subject matter to sources that are often charged with insidious propaganda against the well-being of our southern neighbors.

Some four years ago a prominent oil producer financed a project for a careful study of the "Mexican problem." A foundation thus supported would naturally be termed capitalistic in its leanings, and its work was also hampered by the not unnatural ill-favor shown by the Mexican executives of that day. Yet the men and women who worked under its auspices succeeded in bringing together a mass of valuable material as a result of their researches in libra-

ries and government repositories, from personal interviews, and by means of brief visits to Mexico itself. Some of this would serve as an excellent antidote to better-known partisan investigations, but, unfortunately, much of it has not yet been utilized. The few volumes that have appeared, like the present, show that the promise of the sponsor to give the individual writers perfect freedom to express the truth as they see it has been carried out. It is well to note this fact because in other instances ill considered charges to the contrary have too readily been made.

The content of the present volume is predominantly economic. It is essentially "practical," closely resembling the author's companion book dealing with Carribean lands. Its table of contents shows that he has made excellent use of the resources of the foundation. None of the chapters are general in character, but the first two serve to introduce the others. Three are devoted to the government of the country and as many to its finances. The Mexican laborer is given four, in all of which his economic status is emphasized, and an equal number treat of commerce, transportation and industry. Of those remaining, one deals with colonization, two with the foreigners, one with border problems, past and present (but not those involving to any extent the deeper human elements), and one with the general relations between Mexico and the United States.

The author tells a straightforward story and he is not unduly didactic or distressingly pessimistic. He has no sovereign remedy for Mexico's ills, but he makes clear what many of them are. He presents few conclusions and those largely by indirection. His data will not permit much else. His footnotes and bibliography show a definite purpose to master the details of his subject, and he packs these details into his chapters in surprising abundance. His book will prove a valuable storehouse of information for the phases that he emphasizes, and, within the economic limits that he has set for himself, a welcome guide. A good index and a small map showing the political divisions and productiveness of Mexico add to its usefulness.

ISAAC J. COX.